

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

NFAC #6493-81
13 October 1981

SIG out

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM : [redacted]
National Intelligence Officer for Economics

SUBJECT: SIG Meeting on the Yamburg Gas Pipeline [redacted]

1. Another SIG meeting took place on 9 October at 11 AM on US policy concerning the Yamburg Gas Pipeline. [redacted] and [redacted] attended for CIA. [redacted]

2. Deputy Secretary Davis, DOE, summarized the DOE paper on energy alternatives to the Yamburg Gas Pipeline, which had been requested at an earlier meeting of the SIG and was to be the main subject of discussion. DOE indicated, and others agreed, that none of the energy alternatives could have any significant direct impact on European decisions on the pipeline. The CIA view that the principal European concern is about the size of the future market for Soviet gas appeared to be generally accepted. [redacted]

3. Under Secretary Rashish asked State/EB (Bob Hormats) to prepare, by 15 October, if possible, in cooperation with other agencies, a paper defining US strategy concerning both the single Yamburg line and the possible second stage. The paper is to address: what is feasible; what are the remaining issues; and how the US can influence the results. There appeared to be agreement that US initiatives would be relevant mainly to European perceptions of overall energy market prospects. Although the chances are overwhelming that the first pipeline will be built, we may be able to further weaken already uncertain prospects for the second line. [redacted]

4. The question of unilateral actions, if any, the US should take was only briefly mentioned. Perceptions appeared to differ as to how much a refusal to license GE technology for production of key components for compressors would delay the project. We will try to clarify this issue. [redacted]

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FROM : [REDACTED]
National Intelligence Officer for Economics

SUBJECT: SIG Meeting on the Yamburg Gas Pipeline [REDACTED]

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